

Washington, DC – Congressman John Adler released the following statement after voting against the health care reform package that passed the House of Representatives tonight.

"I voted against the health care bill because it does not do enough to make health care affordable for middle-class families, small businesses, seniors, and taxpayers.

"I have consistently argued that successful health care reform must achieve two goals: cover more working Americans and make health care affordable for middle-class families and small businesses. The bill that passed the House of Representatives today begins to tackle the first priority, but does not do enough to lower costs for families and businesses.

"I am disappointed that Congress missed this opportunity to strengthen our health care system for American families and small businesses. We need reforms that will spur job growth and reduce health care costs for future generations.

"My family suffered the repercussions of out-of-control medical costs and health insurance that was too expensive for small business owners. My father, who owned a dry cleaning business, was forced to get out of the hospital too quickly after a series of heart attacks and lost the family business due to rising medical bills. I do not believe this health care legislation will keep premiums down for families and small businesses in the future."

Congressman Adler has hosted more than 80 public meetings with local residents during the last year. He also held more than 60 meetings with local hospitals, physician groups, patient advocacy organizations, and local officials on health care reform. Just like the families and business owners in South Jersey and the shore area, he has consistently called on Congress to find commonsense, bipartisan measures that would lower costs and make health care more affordable for our families and small businesses.